

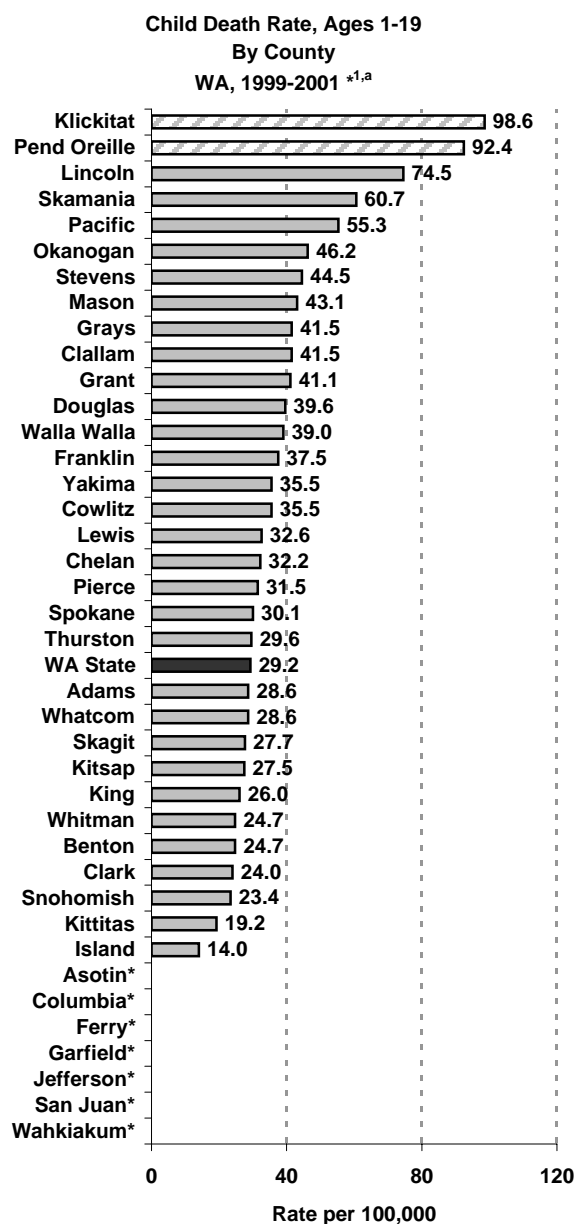
# Child Mortality

**Definition:** Child mortality is the death of a child ages 1 through 19. This age range is chosen because it reflects the national performance measures from the Maternal and Child Health Bureau.


## Key Findings

- ❖ There were 454 deaths to children ages 1-19 in Washington state in 2001. Unintentional injuries accounted for 45% of the deaths, followed by suicide and homicide (16%), malignant neoplasms (12%) and congenital malformations (6%).<sup>1,2</sup>
- ❖ Child death rates in Washington have decreased significantly over time: from 56.8 per 100,000 children ages 1-19 in 1980 to 28.1 per 100,000 in 2001. This mirrors a national trend.<sup>1,3,a</sup>
- ❖ Death rates and causes differ substantially by the child's age. The highest death rates for Washington state children are in children ages 15-19 and children ages 1-4. Unintentional injuries are the leading cause of death for Washington children ages 1-19, followed by malignant neoplasms for children ages 1-14 and suicides for children ages 15-19.<sup>4</sup>
- ❖ Child death rates are higher for male children and children who are Black or American Indian/ Alaska Native. Small town/rural areas have significantly higher child mortality rates than more urban areas in the state.<sup>1,a</sup>
- ❖ The Healthy People 2010 goals for child mortality are no more than 18.6 deaths per 100,000 for ages 1-4,  $\leq 12.3$  for ages 5-9,  $\leq 16.8$  for children ages 10-14, and  $\leq 39.8$  for ages 15-19.<sup>5</sup>

## County

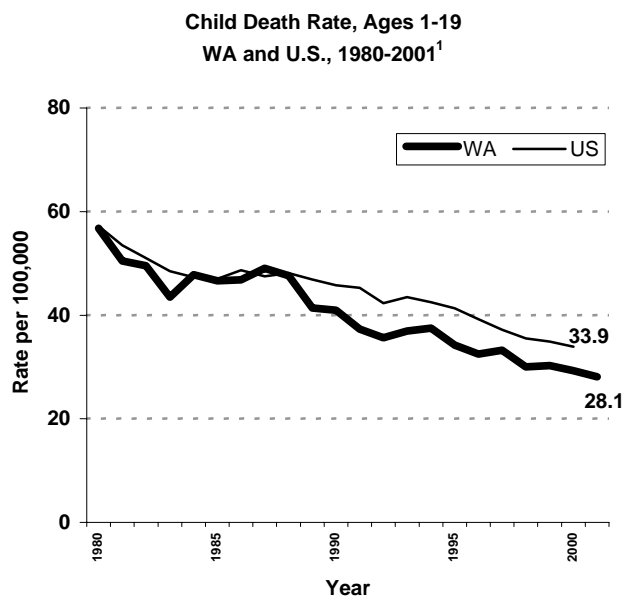


\* County rate not calculated if fewer than 5 events

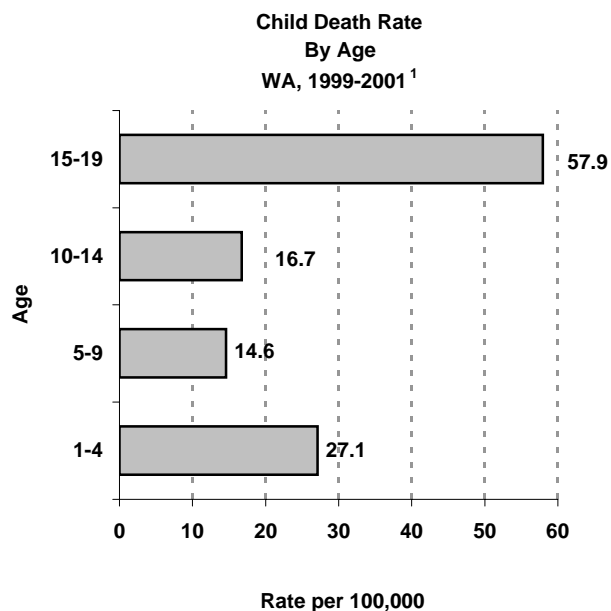
 Significantly different from state

## Child Mortality (cont.)

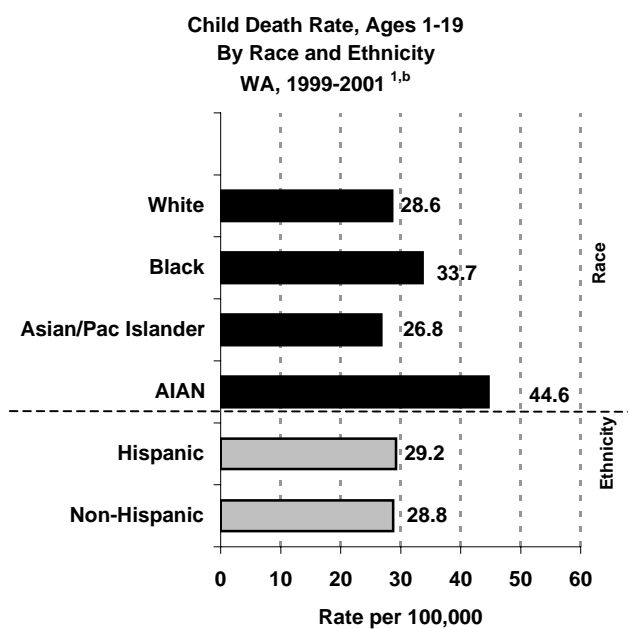
### Time Trend



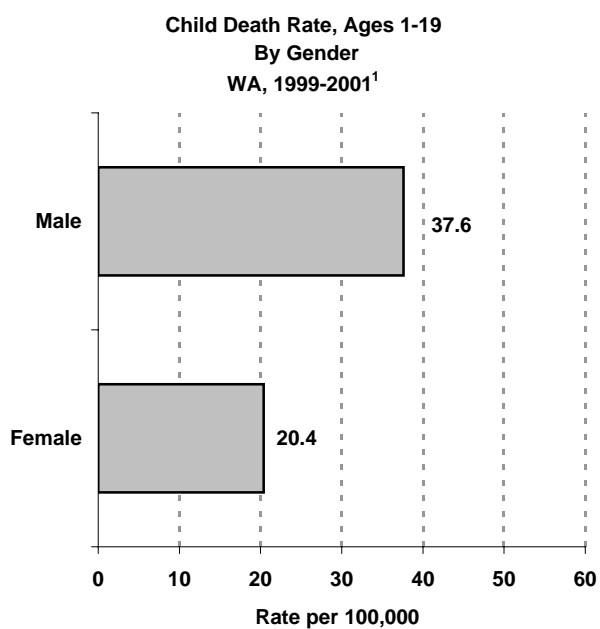
### Age



### Race and Ethnicity



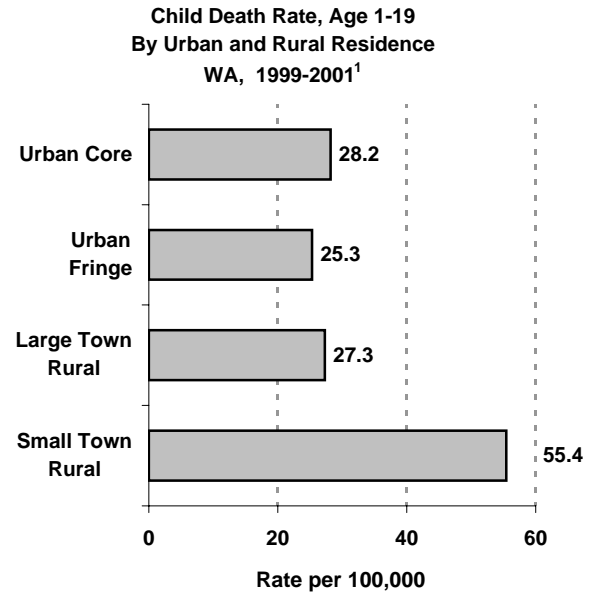
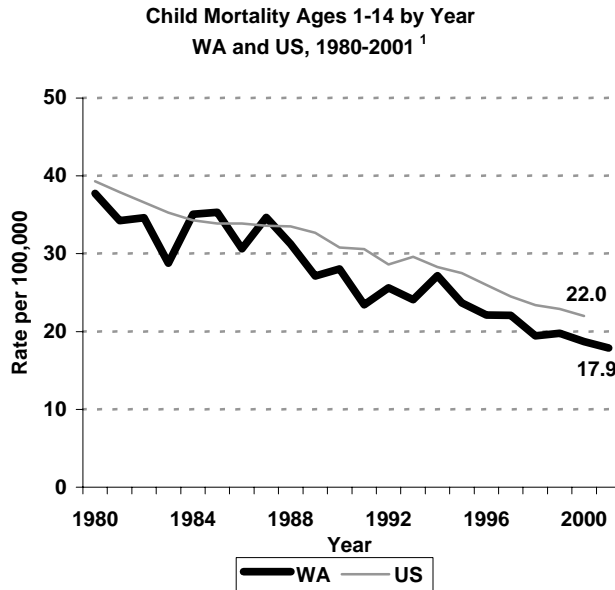
### Gender



## Child Mortality (cont.)

**Block Grant Outcome Measure: Child death rate per 100,000 children aged 1-14.**

**Rural and Urban Residence**



## Leading Causes of Child Mortality, 1999-2001<sup>4</sup> by Age Group

Rank	1 - 4	5 - 9	10 - 14	15 - 19
1st	Accidents and external causes	Accidents and external causes	Accidents and external causes	Accidents and external causes
2nd	Malignant Neoplasms	Malignant Neoplasms	Malignant Neoplasms	Malignant Neoplasms
3rd	Congenital malformations/ chromosomal anomalies	Congenital malformations/ chromosomal anomalies	Suicides	Suicides

### Data Sources

- <sup>1</sup> Washington State death certificate data: Vital Statistics 2001, Washington State Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics, December 2002.
- <sup>2</sup> Analysis Software: Public Health - Seattle & King County, Epidemiology, Planning & Evaluation, Software for Public Health Assessment (VistaPHw), 1991-.
- <sup>3</sup> CDC Wonder, National Center for Health Statistics.
- <sup>4</sup> Injury Prevention and Safety Program, Washington State Department of Health: [http://www.doh.wa.gov/cfh/Injury/Tables\\_update.htm](http://www.doh.wa.gov/cfh/Injury/Tables_update.htm).
- <sup>5</sup> Department of Health and Human Services (US). Healthy People 2010: Understanding and Improving Health. 2nd edition. Washington, DC: US Government Printing Office; November 2000.

### Endnotes

- <sup>a</sup> Significance was determined based on 95% Confidence Intervals.
- <sup>b</sup> AIAN - American Indian and Alaskan Native